

South Plainfield OBSERVER

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60 CENTS

SEPTEMBER 28, 2012

Resolution Imposes Time Restriction on Unexpired Seats

By Jane Dornick

The Board of Education, at their September 19 meeting, passed a last minute resolution amending "the laws governing board member ethics and nepotism to impose a restriction on BOE members who recently vacated their seat on the board, due to the appointment of a relative to a paid position on the board, from being reappointed to or re-running for the vacated seat in the six-month period immediately following the appointment of the board member's relative."

The resolution comes on the heels of former board member Debbie Boyle's recent announcement that she will run for her own one-year unexpired term in the Tuesday, Nov. 6 election. Boyle resigned in July, citing personal reasons.

While there is current legislation in place regarding the nepotism policy, it does not stipulate time limits restricting board members from immediately being reappointed by the board to their own vacated seat or from filing a petition to run in the next election for that same seat after his or her relative has been appointed to a paid position in the district.

The board felt that the six-month requirement will "negate any appearance of impropriety in the hiring of former board members and is a necessary restriction in order to preserve the integrity of our local boards of education in the State of New Jersey."

Boyle, who was presented with a Former Board Member plaque and a N.J. School Boards Association

(Continued on page 7)



(L-R) Library Director Linda Hansen, Library Board President Eric Aronowitz and Board Treasurer Nina Rohrer present a \$1,000 donation to Social Services Director Marge Ackerman (center) on behalf of the Library Board of Trustees. The donation, which was proposed by Rohrer at a recent board meeting and approved by the board, was in addition to the board's annual donation.

Borough Summer Interns Recognized

By Jane Dornick

The Borough Council recognized 10 high school interns who worked voluntarily in various borough departments throughout town this past summer at the September 17 meeting.

Beginning July 1 through August 31 the students worked several hours a day with borough employees in different capacities. The program is designed to introduce them to the many aspects of local government.

One student worked at the Fire Prevention Bureau, while others worked at the Senior Center packing food for Meals on Wheels and serving lunches. Others worked in the Borough Clerk's Office handing out compactor coupons, at Social Services helping to clean and pack as they relocated and in the Health Department giving out dog and cat licenses. Some spent time in the Tax Assessor's Office and in the Finance



High school student interns who worked in borough departments this past summer were recognized at the September 17 council meeting.

and Recreation departments.

The students who were selected to participate are Meca Ali, Elizabeth Foy, Christopher McNeil, Michael Olano, Allyson Piersanti, Andrew Sanchez, Joseph Spinella, Steven Timmerman, Christopher Villacres and William Walsh. Most attend South

Plainfield High School; however, the group included students from Bishop Ahr and St. Joseph High Schools, as well as one teenager who is currently home schooled.

This program is supported by the borough's Economic Development Committee.



Former BOE member and current candidate Debbie Boyle with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Stephen Genco.

Influenza, Pneumococcal Vaccines Available at the Senior Center

The Middlesex County Office of Health Services will hold the 2012-2013 Seasonal Influenza and Pneumococcal Vaccination Program in South Plainfield on Friday, Oct. 5 from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave.

Influenza vaccination clinics will be open to Middlesex County residents age six months and older. No appointment is necessary. Influenza vaccinations will cost \$15 each. Residents who present a valid Red, White and Blue Medicare card will not be charged; Medicare will be billed.

Pneumococcal vaccination clinics will be available by appointment only to residents age 65 and older who have

never received the pneumococcal vaccination. Pneumococcal vaccinations will cost \$20 each. Residents who present a valid Red, White and Blue Medicare card will not be charged; Medicare will be billed. Pneumococcal vaccination appointments can be made by calling (732) 745-3100 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All fees will be accepted in "cash only." Exact change is strongly advised. No bill larger than \$20 will be accepted. Clients who do not have a valid Medicare card must pay the vaccination fee or they can bring their card to a future Middlesex County Office of Public Health clinic to receive services. Receipts will be provided at the time of service.

For more information, call (732) 745-3100 or visit www.co.middlesex.nj.us/publichealth/flu-clinics.asp.



PICTURE OF THE WEEK—This photo was taken in Spring Lake Park during an unexpected late summer sun shower on September 20 at 4:23 p.m.

—Submitted by Mari Doñe



In My Opinion

Opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the publisher, nor do we guarantee accuracy.

To the Editor:

Thank you to all the churches, businesses and families who have donated funds to the Clinton Avenue, South Plainfield fire victims. The generosity that everyone has shown to these families during the past nine months has been overwhelming, along with help from Superintendent Dr. Stephen Genco, Mayor Matt Anesh, Council President Ray Rusnak, Councilmembers Alex Barletta, Rob Bengivenga, Derryck White, Tim McConville and Dick Frank; CFO Glenn Cullen, the mayor's secretary, Anne Daly; all the South Plainfield Schools' principals, PTO administrators, and the teachers and staff from Roosevelt and Grant schools.

The funds have paid for temporary shelter for the families on a weekly basis, funeral expenses, child care, car repairs, car insurance, AAA, clothing, personal items and gasoline.

I continually contact government agencies on their behalf, yet none have come forward to help. I have reached out to Senator Barbara Buono, Congressman Leonard Lance and Assemblyman Pat Diegnan, and all have given much needed help with contact numbers.

The South Plainfield Post Office will not rent the fire victims a post office box because they don't have two forms of ID (which were lost in the fire). They have state identifica-

tions, but that is not enough. The post office personnel want voter registration IDs.

Two of the three families have received Section 8 housing over the past two weeks. I want to thank Jack Pedersen for his help. These families had nothing but the clothes on their backs. The Boyle Foundation has paid for the security deposits and first month's rent for the two families. We have also paid for minimal amounts of furniture. These families do not receive welfare and are still in need of supplemental food, furniture, appliances and bedding for the children and themselves. One family is still displaced, but all the families are on the road to recovery.

The donated funds have been exhausted. We are asking if anyone would be able to contribute additional monies to help these families. Please make your checks payable to the Boyle Memorial Foundation, 209 Van Fleet Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. Your donations would greatly help these three families.

**SINCERELY,
DEBBIE BOYLE, FOR THE BOYLE
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

To the Editor:

Three years ago I asked for your support in my bid for a Board of Education seat. At that time, the finances were in shambles, the staff

was uneasy, the test scores weren't where they should be, and required and urgent maintenance projects were being ignored. I am back once more to ask you for your help in my reelection. Since that time, the South Plainfield School District has made great strides in all of these areas and I believe I had a small part in this outcome. During the last three years I have, at all times, kept an eye on the bottom line. I feel that I can continue to serve you in this capacity.

Being a school board member carries great responsibility. In South Plainfield it means holding the futures of almost 3,800 students in your hands. It means making sure that they have safe buildings to learn in, a curriculum that meets not only the state mandates but the students' requirements, teachers whose mission it is to teach every child to the best of their ability, rooting out the illegal and/or disruptive students and providing books and materials to enhance the school experience.

This past summer has seen an extensive rewriting of our curricula. Many of our teachers worked to craft a new working model for our students that encompasses the core curriculum mandated by the state, overall grade levels and disciplines. Making sure that we are teaching the things our students need to learn is the primary reason for our existence.

We have a capital reserve fund to finance much needed projects within the district such as re-construction of classrooms to accommodate all day kindergarten, re-construction of the high school and middle school parking lots and the re-roofing of the middle and high schools this past summer, along with roof repairs to the other buildings. We accomplished these tasks without having to borrow money by doing what any responsible homeowner would do; we saved up for it and were able to pay as we go. Being prepared rather than reacting to emergencies is our goal. We, in South Plainfield, have millions of dollars worth of buildings and grounds, and we must keep them in good shape and safe repair.

This last school year has seen the stabilization of our central administration with the hiring of James Olobardi as our business administrator, Stephen Genco as our superintendent of schools, and Nicole Pormilli as our assistant superintendent. These three individuals will, in my opinion,

move our district positively, both academically and fiscally. We have finally moved away from the chaotic state we were forced into by circumstance into a new, calmer era. Over the past three years the district has come a long way. Fiscally, we have pulled ourselves out of the hole and now operate well into the black. We have managed our finances so that we are able to apply surplus to the budget to keep taxes in check, work on our buildings without resorting to borrowing money, stabilizing our staff, improving our supervision, and expanding our ability to communicate with our stakeholders.

I feel that I am capable of acting for the citizens and students of South Plainfield. I have learned many things over my time as a board member. Educating myself in all aspects of boardsmanship is an ongoing endeavor for me. In November 2006, the New Jersey School Board Association designated me a Master Board Member. This past May I was honored by the New Jersey School Boards Association with the title of Certified Board Leader, one of only 22 in the entire state. These designations came at the end of extensive seminar work over multiple years finalizing in a two-hour written test of my knowledge for Master Board Member, and an additional series of extensive testing previous to being awarded the Certified Board Leader title.

Keeping the South Plainfield schools in good shape, academically, monetarily and physically is of the utmost priority. I believe I am the person to do that and ask for your vote on November 6, Line 6.

CAROL BYRNE

Dear Editor,

I am writing regarding the letter by Alex Barletta that questioned Franky Salerno's record while on the Borough Council, and the subsequent rebuttals by Vincent Buttiglieri and John and April Salerno, Franky's parents.

Buttiglieri and the Salernos were upset at what they perceived was an attack on Franky Salerno's character. They went on to say what a nice guy Franky is. No one ever said Franky wasn't a nice guy. He very well may be. Even Barletta called him a "nice enough guy who got along with everybody when he served." But being a nice guy is not reason enough to reelect him. Neither Buttiglieri nor the Salernos addressed the claims made by

Submit Your Letters to the Editor

Send your letters to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax to 908-668-8819, or via email: spobserver@comcast.net. **Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m.** Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Limit letters to no more than 200 words. We reserve the right to refuse a letter, to edit for clarity or length, and to limit the number of letters submitted on the same subject. Submission is not a guarantee of publication. We do not accept anonymous letters. Letters are strictly opinion.

Barletta about Franky Salerno's record while serving on the council.

What was Salerno's attendance record at borough council meetings? Is it true that as chairman of the Public Works Committee he was nowhere to be found during snowstorms, the 2010 blizzard and Hurricane Irene, and that Council President Ray Rusnak had to take on Salerno's responsibilities in addition to his own?

Is it true that during his time on the council Salerno never proposed a piece of legislation or contributed to discussions on issues being debated? Is it true that he never had anything to report at council meetings? What did he accomplish while on the council that makes him worthy of another term? Barletta said Salerno does not have a command of the issues. Hopefully, there will be a debate in which Salerno will have a chance to prove him wrong.

I wonder why Buttiglieri, Salerno's parents and the Democrats have not addressed these points. Until we get answers, it seems to me that the only reason Salerno thinks we should vote for him is because he is not a Republican. These issues should be addressed to clear things up for undecided voters like myself.

**SINCERELY,
MARY ANN BOURBEAU**

To the Editor:

There was a letter in the 9/21 issue of the *Observer* from Mr. Gregov, who said he is a candidate for the Board of Education. He said that he supports the request of the borough that the BOE return to the borough its portion of the money the borough lost due to tax appeals. The exact term he used was "owed."

I acknowledge that it is reasonable for the borough to make that request, and that it in some sense would be fair for the BOE to agree; however, the BOE is under no obligation to make

(Continued on page 9)

Want to stay informed about the business of your Council and BOE?

FYI

Borough Council & BOE

Council meetings air on Comcast Channel 96 Mondays at 7 p.m. BOE meetings air on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

To purchase a complete copy of a council or BOE meeting, contact the *Observer*. (Check Comcast community bulletin board for last minute time changes.)

councilmeetings

Meets twice a month on Mondays, *except where noted. Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
Monday, October 1	Monday, October 1
Monday, October 15	Monday, October 15

All Agenda Meetings begin at 7 p.m. followed immediately by the Public Meeting, unless otherwise noted. Meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with the N.J. Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Ave.

planningboard

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, *except where noted. Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641 Oct. 9, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, Nov. 27, Dec. 11

zoningboardofadjustment

Meets first and third Tuesdays of the month, *except where noted. Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641 Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Dec. 18

South Plainfield OBSERVER

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We encourage the submission of stories and photos. To have an article published: Type (double spaced) the article and mail, email or fax. Include name, address and telephone number. **Deadline for submission is Monday, 5 p.m.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Submit letters to the editor by mail, email or fax. Letters should not exceed 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. Letters must include name and phone number, for verification.

To comment on the content or to suggest a story idea, contact the editor at (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

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The Filipino-American Association (FAASH) of Sacred Heart Church 2012-2013 officers were installed on August 15 at the Mass of the Feast of the Assumption. New officers are Gilbert Delacruz-president, William Co-first vice president, Rebecca Robak-second vice president, Ida Flores-recording secretary, Beth Delacruz-corresponding secretary, Christine DeCastro-treasurer, Jasper Baluyot-auditor and Geena Chavez, Marina Ocampo, Lani Obligation and Myrna Hessinger-press relations. Rev. John Paul Alvarado-pastor (not pictured) and Rev. Juan Salonga-parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Church, are spiritual advisors.

Taste of South Plainfield Tickets Now on Sale

Tickets for the South Plainfield Business Association (SPBA) Taste of South Plainfield are now on sale. The event will be held on Friday, Oct. 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave.

Last year's Taste of South Plainfield was a huge success, with more than 250 guests enjoying samplings from a variety of local restaurants.

Dan Ratti, owner of Oak Tree Discount Liquors, will have plenty of sample wines and liquors on hand.

Restaurants that have already signed up for the Taste of South Plainfield include Flanagan's Restaurant, Corner Deli, Subway, Sherban's, Paulo's Barbeque, Hometown Heros, KC's Korner, Chef Rodney Jackson, Mr. Subs, Uncle Louie G, Ciccio's, Muscle Maker Grill and Mei Haus.

Taste of South Plainfield tickets can be purchased at the *Observer*, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B or from any committee member. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. Proceeds go toward scholarships for South Plainfield High School graduates.

Restaurants interested in participating should contact Debbie Boyle at the number below. Space is limited. Any vendor who does not want to sell food but would like to set up a table in the hallway the night of the event should call for more information.

For information, call Debbie Boyle at (908) 803-1573, Darlene Pinto at (908) 591-9355, Chrissy Buteas at (908) 447-3466 or Nancy Grenier at (908) 668-0010.

Girl Scouts Holding Registration Night

South Plainfield Girl Scouts registration night will be held on Friday, Sept. 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Grant School.

For more information, call Jeanne Gruver at (908) 917-6168 or email jgruver562@comcast.net.

Borough Council Sept. 4 & 17 meetings

borough notes

The following took place at the September 4 and 17 Borough Council meetings:

- Approval of Teamsters labor agreement.
- Award a bid to Fischer Contracting, Inc. for the 2012 multi-road improvement project in an amount not to exceed \$67,371.25.
- Authorize settlement of condemnation action involving DSC of Newark, DSC of Delaware and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Purchase K-9 cages from Triangle Communication in an amount not to exceed \$9,240.68.
- Purchase and install electronics and equipment from Triangle Communication for two K-9 patrol vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$25,583.60.
- Approve a refund for overpayment of taxes to Douglas and Eileen Carey of 107 Vakarch Pl. for \$1,977.44, Devon Doshi of 715 Lucy Ct. for \$123.36, Christopher Palmer of 1714 Pershing Pl. for \$1,716.32.
- Appoint Junior Firefighters Paul McIlillo Jr., Kevin Basantes, Matt Roesch and Sarah C. Bosse to the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department.
- Hire Andy Keraga as part-time groundskeeper on Tuesdays for an hourly rate.
- Support Assembly Bill A-1503 and Senate Bill S-1896 requiring fire districts, school districts and county governments to pay their fair share of tax appeal refunds and settlements.
- Purchase two German Shepherd male dogs suitable for dual purpose K-9 from Deitrich Neumahr in an amount not to exceed \$12,400.
- Authorize the municipal clerk to certify to the state that the governing body has reviewed and discussed the completed 2012 Best Practices

Prayer to Blessed Virgin

Oh Most Beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times) Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive & forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as your mercy towards me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

Inventory.

- Purchase asphalt pursuant to tonnage pricing of the Middlesex County Co-Op Program in an amount not to exceed \$110,000.
- Rescind resolution 12-244 and 12-245 authorizing the purchase of information technology equipment.
- Authorize T&M Associates to go out to bid for a pump replacement at Cedarbrook Pump Station.
- Purchase two Flashback In-Car Video Systems for the two K-9 police vehicles from L3 Mobil-Vision in an amount not to exceed \$9,675.90.
- Award a bid to Stilo Excavating for 2012 road improvements to Sampson Avenue and Nunnick Lane in an amount not to exceed \$349,930.95.
- Appoint Charley Leon as a firefighter to the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department.

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October 3, 2012

**The South Plainfield School District
is participating in Walk to School Day on
Wednesday, October 3, 2012**

Join children and adults around the world to celebrate
the benefits of walking and bicycling.

About our event:

International Walk-Bike to School Day

Make it Healthy—Walk or Bike to School

Adult supervision and participation encouraged!

Buses will still be available, and students should follow their normal routine when going home.
The event takes place in the morning only.

Sponsored by the Mayor's Wellness Committee

in conjunction with the Borough Council, Mayor Matt Anesh,
Superintendent of Schools Dr. Stephen Genco, and the South Plainfield Board of Education

Rain Date: October 4th

Call For Entries: Annual Junior Journalist Program Kicks Off

Entries are being accepted for the tenth annual Junior Journalist program for South Plainfield students.

The program, which encourages students to express themselves through creative writing, is a joint cooperation between Hometown Heros and the *South Plainfield Observer*. Students can submit their original works to their teachers, the *Observer* or to Hometown Heros. Winners are selected weekly; students' works are published in the *Observer*. Hometown Heros makes arrangements to deliver dinner for the winner's entire family.

At the end of the school year in May, Hometown Heros and the *Observer* host a banquet celebrating all of the weekly winners and their families. A \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond is awarded

to one student by Hometown Heros; additional U.S. Savings Bonds and prizes are also awarded. Students are recognized by the mayor and the state assembly as well.

For more information, call the *Observer* at (908) 668-0010.

SPHS Cheerleaders Mum Sale Fundraiser

The South Plainfield High School Cheerleaders are holding a fall pre-paid mum sale. Cost of mums in various colors is \$7 (nine inch) or \$5 (six inch).

For more information or an order form, call Glenn DellaSala at (732) 763-8110.

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events

Around Town

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

**INFLUENZA AND PNEUMOCOCCAL
VACCINATIONS – 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Friday, October 5**

Residents with a valid Red, White and Blue Medicaid card will not be charged.

MONDAYS

Zumba Gold..... 9:30-10:30 am
Crocheting..... 9:30-11:30 am
Yoga..... 10:30 am
Art Class..... 11:30 am

TUESDAYS

Bingo..... 10 am-2 pm
Ladies Social Group..... 10 am

WEDNESDAYS

Exercise Class..... 8:45 am
Line Dancing..... 10 am
Computer.. 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm
Crocheting..... 1 pm
Tai Chi..... 2 pm

THURSDAYS

Active Seniors..... 9:00 am
Crafts Class..... 10 am
Computer.. 10, 11:30 am, 1:00 pm
Exercise Class..... 1:15 pm

FRIDAYS

Bingo..... 10 am-2 pm

Senior Center is open daily 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays & Sundays.
(908) 754-1047

Knights of Columbus Annual Mum Sale

September 29, 30
October 6, 7, 13, 14

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 ninth annual fall mum sale will be held the following weekends: September 29 and 30, October 6 and 7 and October 13 and 14.

Mums in various colors will be on sale at the Rescue Squad, 2506 Plainfield Ave. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Prices are \$7 for 8-inch pots and \$25 for large pots. This fundraiser supports the Knights various charitable works.

Wednesday at 7 Meet & Greet

October 2

Grow your business with Wednesday at 7 Networking Meet and Greet on Tuesday, Oct. 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Paulo's BBQ, 2341 Plainfield Ave. Refreshments will be served. Bring your business cards; door prizes.

For more information, call Jill Pavel at (732) 423-7727.

Medicare Presentation At the Senior Center

October 5

A free no obligation Medicare presentation will be held on Friday, Oct. 5 at 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. Explore your Medicare Advantage, Supplement and Prescription Part D plan options for this year's annual election period (October 15-December 7). Information and applications will be available. Presented by Catherine M. Pegeron.

For more information and to sign up, call (908) 754-1047.

Wesley Church Garage Sale for MS

October 6

Wesley United Methodist Church will hold a multi-family garage sale on Saturday, Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Ron Winner's house, 2100 Plainfield Ave. Ron will participate in the NYC Marathon on November 4, and all proceeds from the sale will go to the MS Society. Our recycled treasures may become your new treasures.

For more information, call (908) 757-2838, email wumcsp@verizon.net, or make a tax-deductible donation on Ron's website, main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/RonWinner.

Annual Buddy Walk

October 6

The ninth annual Buddy Walk of South Plainfield will be held on Saturday, Oct. 6 at Putnam Park. Registration starts at 11:30 a.m. and the walk begins at 1 p.m. Cost is \$10 for adults (13 and over); kids are \$5. There will be a DJ, raffles, face painting, other kids activities and lunch.

For more information, call (908) 531-5100.

VFW Country Breakfast

October 7

The South Plainfield VFW, 155 Front St., will hold a country breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 7 from 8-11 a.m. Come in and enjoy a tasty breakfast and you may be the winner of one of our door prizes.

For more information, call (908) 668-9751.

Annual Blessing of The Animals

October 7

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave., will be blessing animals in honor of the Feast of St. Francis on Sunday, Oct. 7 during worship service, which begins at 10:30 a.m. If your animal might get unruly during the service, please bring a picture and we will pray for a blessing by proxy.

Fabulous 50s Weekend in Wildwood

October 12-14

Pack your bags for a "Fabulous 50s Weekend" with the South Plainfield Senior Center, Friday-Sunday, Oct. 12-14. The trip to Wildwood includes roundtrip deluxe motor coach transportation, two nights oceanfront hotel, two full breakfasts, two sumptuous dinners and a fabulous 50s concert on Friday night; Saturday afternoon street fair features car show, vendors, doo wop back to the 50s tour, a visit to Cape May, Atlantic City and so much more! Cost is \$260pp. Reservations required; booking up fast!

For reservations, call Grace at the Senior Center at (908) 754-1047.

Fire Department Open House

October 13

To celebrate Fire Prevention Day the South Plainfield Fire Department will host an open house on Saturday, Oct. 13 from 12 to 4 p.m. at fire headquarters. Activities include safety information, vehicle extrication demo, fire smoke house, kitchen fire demo and firefighter search and rescue demo. Bring the whole family.

Mayor's Annual Health & Safety Fair

October 13

The Mayor's Wellness Committee, in conjunction with St. Peter's Healthcare System, will present the second annual Family Health & Safety Fair on Saturday, Oct. 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Senior Center.

The event will feature free health screenings, and the launch of the kickoff of "The Biggest Loser South Plainfield" contest. The day will also include entertainment, face painting, glitter tattoos, giveaways and prizes.

For more information, visit www.southplainfieldnj.com.

Special Athletes Character Breakfast

October 20

The South Plainfield Special Athletes will hold a "Character Breakfast" on Saturday, Oct. 20 from 9-11 a.m. at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. The breakfast buffet, with activities for the kids, will have a pirate and princess theme and include many character friends. Tickets: \$10; only one seating. Also, the place mats for the sponsors will be \$10.

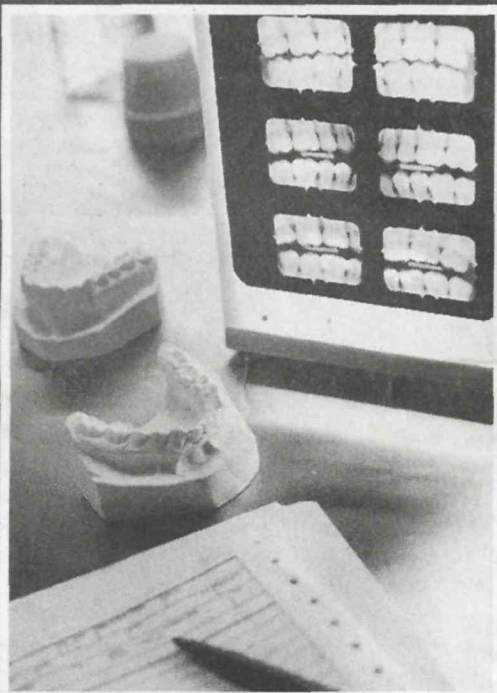
Young ladies can have their hair done and the boys will become pirates. Proceeds help purchase new uniforms or other items needed for the athletes. Coaches for the group are Heather Hearne and Britney DeNitzio.

For more information, call (908) 531-5100.

Marching Band Festival

October 20

South Plainfield High School will host the 31st annual Marching Band Festival on Saturday, Oct. 20 start-



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ing at 5 p.m. at Frank Jost Memorial Field. Tickets: \$9-adult; \$7-students/seniors. Performances by local high school bands and color guards.

Irish Wake Show

November 5

The Senior Center is planning a trip to the Irish Wake Show on Monday, Nov. 5 at Doolan's in Spring Lake. Bus leaves at 10 a.m. and returns at 5 p.m. Cost: \$68pp; lunch with open bar. Registration required.

Sign up at the senior center or call Grace at (908) 754-1047. Must sign up by October 1.

— Out of Town —

Blackrose to Perform

September 29

Blackrose, the band, playing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will be performing at Rug's & Riffy's Bar and Grill, 493 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 9 p.m. No cover charge.

Singles Dance Party

September 29

Steppin' Out Singles is hosting an upscale singles dance party on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 8 p.m. at the Woodbridge Hilton, 120 Wood Ave. South in Iselin. Ages 40 and up. Admission: \$15.

For more information, call the 24-hour hotline at (862) 397-4723.

Temple Sholom Pray & Play

September 29

Temple Sholom of Fanwood/Scotch Plains, located in the Fanwood Presbyterian Church at the corner of Martine and LaGrande avenues in Fanwood, invites children ages four and under to a Shabbat Pray & Play on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 10 a.m. Older siblings are welcome.

For more information, call (908) 889-4900.

Fungus Fest 2012

September 30

The New Jersey Mycological Association will answer questions and more at Fungus Fest 2012 on Sunday, Sept. 30 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum in Morristown. Be prepared to have your eyes opened. Activities, mushroom books, field guides and mushroom arts and crafts will be available for purchase.

Free and open to the public, with a suggested donation of \$2 for adults and \$1 for those under 16.

Crescent Concerts

September 30

Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church, 7th Street and Watchung Avenue in Plainfield, will open the season's Crescent Concerts series on Sunday, Sept. 30 at 3 p.m. with a recital featuring music by J.S. Bach, Bohm, Biery, Mendelssohn, Cook, Finzi and Franck.

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

September 19, 2012-Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on September 18, 2012.

A. Case # 38-11-Olexion Hauling, Block 467.01; Lot 32; M-3 Zone. 75 Tyler Place. The applicant's request for preliminary site plan approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Secretary-Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$28.04

September 28, 2012

police report

• On September 2 Bernard L. Jennings, 55, of Plainfield was arrested at CVS on Plainfield Avenue for shoplifting assorted merchandise valued at \$114.

• On September 3 Dwayne L. Williams, 32, of Perth Amboy was arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting a pair of cuff links valued at \$144.

• On September 4 a Plainfield Avenue resident reported that various jewelry, cash and a water jug with coins had been taken from their home.

• On September 6 two Chambers Street residents reported that the interior of their vehicles had been ransacked. A small amount of change had been taken.

• Lamp IV Super Laundromat on Oak Tree Road reported that the rear door alarm had been damaged.

• On September 7 a Fords resident reported the theft of a Kodak digital camera that was left on a counter at Unique Thrift Store.

• On September 9 Japan M. Thakar, 28, of Old Bridge was arrested for careless driving, driving on a suspended license, speeding and an outstanding warrant.

• A Cotton Street resident reported the theft of a Tom Tom GPS from their vehicle.

• A Piscataway resident reported the theft of their 2005 Acura MDX from the parking lot at 1550 Park Avenue.

• On September 9 Randolph J. Wells, 58, of Plainfield was arrested at Home Depot for shoplifting a DeWalt hammer drill valued at \$299.

• On September 11 Michael M. Mendes-Colejones, 26, of Iselin was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.

• Anthony S. McCoy, 43, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, speeding and an outstanding warrant.

• On September 13 Sohina N. Shah was arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting \$306 worth of men's neckties and belts.

• On September 14 a Warren Street resident reported that the driver's side mirror of their vehicle had been damaged.

Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure

September 30

Register for our biggest and most important fundraiser, The Central and South Jersey Race for the Cure, which will be held on Sunday, Sept. 30 at Six Flags Great Escape.

Sign up today at www.komenctnj.org/raceforthecure.

Basic Rose Care at Garden Club

October 1

The Garden Club of Metuchen will host a free program entitled, "Basic Rose Care" presented by Jeff Van Pelt, Somerset County Parks Supervisor of Horticulture, on Monday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, Rt. 27 and Oak Avenue in Metuchen. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, email dobropta@verizon.net.

Middlesex East WOWs Meeting

October 1

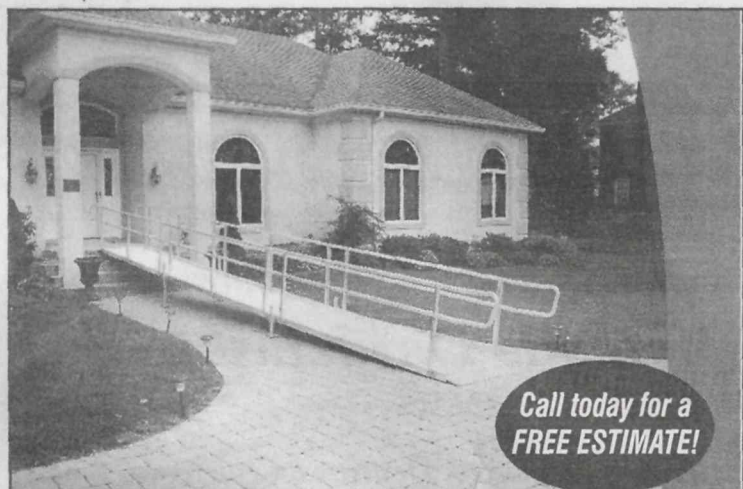
Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers will conduct a business meeting on Monday, Oct. 1 starting at 7 p.m. at the Carteret Community Center located at Pershing and Cooke avenues in Carteret.

For more information, call (732) 969-2228 or (908) 757-0515.

Metuchen-Edison Women's Club

October 3

The Metuchen-Edison Women's Club will present a program about eye health care by Barry Montalto, owner of Optique Unique in Metuchen on Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at The Heritage at Clara Barton, 1015 Amboy Ave. in Edison. Look for the club at the Metuchen Country Fair on Saturday, Oct. 6.



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SPHS Music Boosters MUSIC NOTES



South Plainfield Marching Band performs at competition.

With the start of the South Plainfield High School football season, so begins the marching band season. The South Plainfield High School Marching Band has two home game halftime shows behind them, and the first competition, hosted by Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, was a big success. The band, guard and audience endured soaking rain until just moments before their turn, when the rain cleared, allowing the band to give a great performance. They earned second place in Group 3A, Best Overall Effect, Best Guard and Best Percussion. The next competition is Saturday, Oct. 6 in South Brunswick.

Don't miss the 31st annual music festival on Saturday, Oct. 20 at Jost Field. Performances start at 5 p.m., and (as of press time) include marching bands from Ridge, Scotch Plains-Fanwood, Metuchen, Rahway, Perth Amboy, Colonia and John F. Kennedy high schools. Before the conclusion of the event with award presentations, the South Plainfield High School Marching Band will perform selections from the opera, *Carmen*. It promises to be an entertaining evening for all!

In the meantime, chorus, band and orchestra students have been preparing for an upcoming trip to Disney World in November. Thank you to all of the local businesses and their customers that have shown their support throughout our many fundraisers. Without you, many of our students would not be able to take this trip.

The next meeting of the Music Boosters will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. in the SPHS cafeteria. We encourage parents of music students to join us: We will hear updates from the music teachers about the music program and the Disney trip and discuss the upcoming music festival, along with other topics. Lastly, we will view a Premier Designs Jewelry fashion show to conclude that fundraiser.

This is a great group of people that seems to grow every year. We look forward to new members, especially parents of freshman, sophomore and junior students. We laugh, we cry, we work and we play together... join us and enjoy important and special moments that you and your child will never forget.

—Submitted by Madeline Christilles

JIM

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Danielle Aronowitz

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Missed a movie you wanted to see in the theaters and don't want to pay for the DVD? Come to Monday Night Movies at the library. It's all the fun of a movie theater, but none of the cost. We

are showing brand new releases every Monday night at 6:30 p.m. This week's movie was a blockbuster smash in the summer, bringing together various superheroes for an epic movie. We also provide popcorn for all who attend. There is no registration required. You can call the library for title information or stop by and pick up a schedule of all the upcoming movies.

On Friday, Oct. 12 at 1 p.m., we will present a special program about the Japanese Tea Ceremony. You'll learn about the ancient Japanese ritual of the tea ceremony from a student of the art. Traditional tea will be prepared and samples provided. This program is free, but registration is required.

We will follow our regular schedule for the children's programs. The storytime program for 2s & 3s is held Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30. Storytime for ages three and up is held Tuesday mornings at 10:30, Wednesday nights at 6:30 and Thursday afternoons at 1:15. The Babytime program for ages up to two years is held Friday morning at 10:30. These programs do not require registration. Please try to arrive on time because it can get very disruptive if you come in the middle of the program.

There will be a special children's program called Halloween Tricks with Joe Fischer on Thursday, Oct. 25 at 6:30 p.m. Fischer will perform magic tricks for the kids. Children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes. The program will be held at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave.

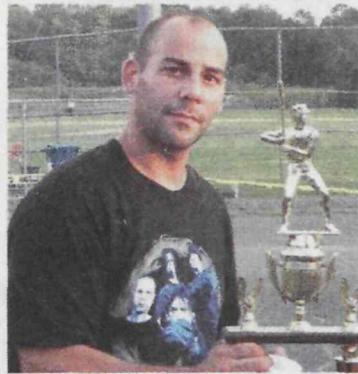
The library is open seven days a week except holidays—Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays, 1:30 to 5 p.m.

To find out more visit our Facebook page, call (908) 754-7885, or visit us at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

See you next week!



PBA Victorious in Battle of the Badges



Mike Kapsch, winner of the Home Run Derby

The South Plainfield Police Department and the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department squared off in its annual Battle of the Badges Charity Softball Game on Saturday night. This year, the police department held on to the trophy with a 7-3 victory over the fire department in a well-played game on both sides.

The Most Valuable Player of the game, voted by his teammates, was Gary Cassio. Gary led the charge by going 3-for-3 and making several flashy plays in the field to help hold the fire department to the three runs they earned in the first inning.

A new king was crowned in the Home Run Derby this year. Congratulations to Mike Kapsch, who held off reigning champion Rob Barone Jr., and Ken Parada in the third round, to claim the 2012 trophy.

PBA Local #100 and South Plain-

field Fire Department would like to thank the following people and businesses for their donations and time. Umpire Jason Kline, who once again officiated the game on his own time; Flanagan's Restaurant and Pub, for their donations and hosting specials that evening for those attending the game; the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club, for allowing us to use their facility; Brickhouse Tavern + Tap, Oak Tree Liquors, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, KC's Korner, Sun Kissed Tanning Spa, the South Plainfield Recreation Department and Freihofer's. Also, thanks to Amp'd, who rocked the place with live music for three hours.

Each year, PBA Local #100 and South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department hold this charity softball game for

a good cause. This year, all proceeds are going towards college scholarships for graduating seniors and food for some less fortunate families in South Plainfield during the holiday season.

Although bragging rights are somewhat important to the police officers and firemen, it's much more important to them to be able to raise money for a good cause.

The South Plainfield PBA Local #100 holds several fundraisers each year to benefit a good cause. Most are community oriented, such as the annual volleyball tournament, golf outing and basketball game, among others. To be alerted of upcoming events or to get involved, visit the PBA on Facebook at facebook.com/pba100.

—Submitted by Peter Magnani



PBA Local #100 Team Police was victorious over the Volunteer Fire Department.

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BOE Imposes Time Restriction On Filling Unexpired Seats

(Continued from page 1)

Certificate, which recognizes successful completion of at least 20 credits said, "I resigned because I had to do what I needed to do. After a thorough investigation of myself by the attorney general and state school boards, it is my privilege to be on the ballot in November."

She added, "The night I resigned I received accolades and kudos from eight board members and can only hope that the sincerity that was given from those members over the past four weeks will remain in your hearts."

The resolution was not placed on the agenda, nor was it given to board members until after Boyle received her award.

Board President Jim Giannakis felt that there was "no clarity" with regard to the nepotism policy and that "to run for your own seat speaks for itself."

Finance Chair Chris Hubner thought that the resolution was too "lengthy" and that the reappointment time should be at least three years.

Board member Bill Seesselberg "agreed with the substance" of the resolution; however, member Joseph Sorrentino was the only board member opposed to the resolution and voted against it.

Borough Council President Ray Rusnak urged Boyle to "keep going

forward with her campaign." Former board member Steve Bohn, who is running for reelection on Tuesday, Nov. 6, questioned the board in regards to the cost to taxpayers to write the resolution. Board Attorney Marc Zitomer replied that it was "less than \$200."

Boyle addressed the board saying, "Mr. Hubner, you said you don't believe that anybody sitting on the board should have any relative in the district. Your board president's wife is a secretary in the schools." Giannakis replied that his wife was employed long before he was on the board.

Resident Michael Hamberg's petition to run against Boyle for the one-year unexpired term was accepted by the board at the September 12 meeting. Hamberg withdrew from the race this week saying, "Due to personal reasons I will not be able to run for the one-year vacant seat this term."

That evening the board approved an energy audit for all eight district buildings to be conducted by Dome-Tech Energy Procurement Services of Edison at a cost of \$29,045. They also appointed a new Architect of Record, Fraytak, Veisz, Hopkins, Duthrie, PC of Trenton, for the 2012/2013 school year.

Combinations Martial Arts Hosts Open House

Combinations Martial Arts & Fitness Academy held a Back-to-School Open House on August 15 that was well attended by children and adults. Mayor Matthew Anesh and councilmen Rob Bengivenga, Alex Barletta, Tim McConville, Derryck White and Ray Rusnak paid a visit and were invited to participate in one of the featured seminars.

"We're very pleased with the turnout and participation of children and their parents, the mayor and councilmen at this event. This type of participation exemplifies the family and community environment that we always try to maintain at the academy," said Head Instructor and Owner Al Estevez.

Al's wife and business partner, Monica Estevez, added, "It's been a dream come true to have developed a place for people of all ages to learn and continue to grow physically, mentally and personally. Personal growth is particularly addressed in our age specific kids martial arts programs, where we emphasize character building skills like teamwork, discipline, courage and perseverance."

Combinations offers programs in kickboxing (KRU Muay Thai) and grappling (Guerrero Brazilian Jiu Jitsu). These are the main staples of mixed martial arts which typically start with standing (kickboxing) and transition to ground (grappling) techniques. Combinations also offers frequent seminars in related skills, including



Mayor Matthew Anesh and councilmembers Rob Bengivenga, Alex Barletta, Tim McConville, Derryck White and Ray Rusnak participate in a self defense seminar.

bully prevention and self-defense.

Self-defense is the seminar that the mayor and councilmen were invited to join. This skill focuses on avoiding and getting out of trouble. It utilizes verbal as well as physical techniques. A loud yelp (Kia!!) can distract an assailant as one delivers a strategic blow followed by an immediate retreat to flee from an attacker. "Kia!! was the word of the day, which motivated and excited our special guests at this successful open house. We're so proud to have the opportunity to bring people together and join the fabric of this great community," exclaimed Al Estevez.

Combinations will also be participating in the second annual South Plainfield Mayor's Wellness Campaign, Health & Fitness Fair which will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13 at the Senior Center.

They will hold a free Halloween costume party for kids (ages 3 to 14), from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27 at the Combinations gym located at 901 Montrose Ave., Suite B. The entrance and ample parking are located at the back of the building.

For more on Combinations Martial Arts & Fitness Academy, call (732) 621-0880, www.mmacombinations.com.

Event Photos For Sale

Photographs of local events by South Plainfield Observer contributing photographer Louis Mormile are available for purchase at www.louisormilephotography.com.



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sports

SPHS

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

3:45pm BJV Soccer-Colonia (A) Bus 2:30pm
 3:45pm Fr Football-Woodbridge (H)
 3:45pm V Field Hockey-Piscataway JV/5:15pm (H)
 4pm GV&JV Soccer-Sayreville (H)
 4pm V Volleyball-Woodbridge JV/5:30pm (A) Bus 2:30pm
 7pm V Cheerleaders-Woodbridge (A) Bus 5:30pm
 7pm V Football-Woodbridge (A) 2 Buses 4:30pm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

10am BV Soccer-Colonia (A) Bus 8:45
 VB&G Cross Country @ Warinacco Park (A) Bus TBA

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

3:45pm V Field Hockey-Old Bridge JV/5:15pm Bus 2:30pm
 3:45pm JV Football-Woodbridge (H)
 4pm GV Tennis-Monroe (A) Bus 2:30pm
 4pm Fr Field Hockey-Old Bridge (H)
 4pm B Fr Soccer-Colonia (H)
 5:30pm V Volleyball-New Brunswick JV/4pm (H)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

4:30pm V Gymnastics-S. Brunswick (H)
 6pm BV Soccer-Sayreville JV/4 Bus 2:30pm

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

3:45pm V Field Hockey-Monroe JV/5:15 Bus 2:30pm
 4pm GV&JV Soccer-Bound Brook (A) Bus 2:30pm
 4pm GV Tennis-Bishop Ahr (H)
 4pm Fr Field Hockey-Monroe (H)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

4pm BV&JV Soccer-New Brunswick (H)
 4pm GV&JV Soccer-Edison (H)
 4:30pm V Gymnastics-No. Brunswick (A) Bus 2:30pm

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

3:45pm Fr Football-Bishop Ahr (A) Bus 2:30pm
 3:45pm V Field Hockey-S. Brunswick JV/5:15pm (H)
 4pm GV Tennis-Perth Amboy (A) Bus 2:30pm
 4pm FR Field Hockey-S. Brunswick (A) Bus 2:30pm
 5:30pm V Volleyball-Timothy Christian JV/4pm (H)
 7pm V Football-Bishop Ahr (H) 2 Buses Jost 8:30pm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

10am BV&JV Soccer-Edison (A) Bus 8:30
 10am GV&JV Soccer-Perth Amboy (H)
 2pm GV Tennis-Ranney (A) Bus 12:45

Another Great Weekend for Soccer

We had great weather and the kids were all off and running last weekend. Here are some of the highlights from some of our teams.

The Terminators (U9) played against the Berkeley Heights Kicks on September 23. The boys had an excellent game, played as a team and passed the ball well. Their efforts as a team resulted in goals made by Julian Irizarry, Christopher Poggio, Edwin Veliz, Kevin Lizano and Johnny Padovano. The Terminators were tough on defense as well. There were several great saves made by goalkeeper's Brady Farrell, Johnny Padovano and Christopher Spadavechia.

The entire team played great and kept the pressure on the Kicks for the entire game. The final score was 8-4. Other team members who were instrumental in the day's win were Christian Alexander, David Amador, Colin Carey, Xavier McIntyre, Diego Paredes and Sam Strassburger.

Team Eclipse (U12G) fought a hard fight against Berkeley Heights on September 23. Linda Farinella scored the only goal of the game early in the second half. Displaying excellent defense were Catherine Delair, Olivia Leonardis, Gianna Sacco, Kristyn Smith, Alexis Curtis, Lauren Zolkowski and Cameron Marks. Constant pressure from Mackenzie O'Brien, Samantha Pullen and Jillian Holoboski kept feeding the ball up the field to the offensive line of Sarah Gwiazda, Lynda Farinella, Christina Romano, Kelly Lizano and Melanie Lizano. Excellent goalkeeping by Kaitlyn Smith and Julia Parker kept Berkeley Heights scoreless throughout the game. Team Eclipse members are Alexis Curtis, Catherine Delair, Lauren Zolkowski, Lynda Farinella, Sarah Gwiazda, Jillian Holoboski, Olivia Leonardis, Kelly Lizano, Melanie Lizano, Cameron Marks, Mackenzie O'Brien, Julia Parker, Samantha Pullen, Christina Romano, Gianna Sacco, Kaitlyn Smith and Kristyn Smith. Head coach is Gino Leonardis and assistant coach is Ken Curtis.

The U10 SP Fury Traveling Soccer Team played the Basking Ridge Magic on September 23, but the Fury were the magicians. Displaying deft ball handling skills and accurate passing that confused their opponents to the tune of a 4-1 victory. With the offense controlling the ball, Delaney Born picked



The U9 Terminators were victorious (8-4) against Berkeley Heights on Sunday.



Team Eclipse U12G defeated Berkeley Heights, 1-0 on Sunday.

up where she left off last weekend and started the scoring with a blast from the left side. Lauren Hutchison followed with another blast from the right side. To the Magic's credit they put together some good offensive runs, but heroic goalkeeping from Courtney Nagy and Tori Euston kept them off the scoreboard. Once again the midfielders, led by Olivia Olano, controlled the game by quickly turning defensive stops into scoring opportunities of their own. Once again, it was Lauren Hutchison delivering as she aimed for the corner of the goal out of the reach of the Magic goalie. During the fourth quarter,

Olano capped the scoring with a blast of her own. Constant pressure was applied by Fury girls, Lena Parlapanio, Alexis Robinson, Amanda Yuill, Olivia Ardito and Gigi Glover. While a fearless defense from Nadia Blouin thwarted the Magic, it was a total team effort.

The Sharks U11—Congratulations on your 4-1 win against North Hurderton.

South Plainfield Express U8—Congratulations on your 2-0 win. We heard it was an excellent game with goals scored by Louis Debenedictis and Anthony Cortese.

—Submitted by Kathy Smith

South Plainfield Ski Club News

The South Plainfield Ski Club is preparing for its twelfth season of winter fun and will hold an organizational meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. in the Middle School cafeteria.

Students in grades six through eight interested in big mountain skiing and riding are invited to attend this most important meeting. The club will take four Friday afternoon/evening trips to Mountain Creek (MC) in Northern New Jersey during January and February. Founder Rob Breslau said, "I am very excited about this year, especially

after the great season we had in 2012. Natural snow fall was minimal last year; however, MC's snowmaking system did a fantastic job of creating a winter wonderland. The new Red Tail Lodge was a great place to warm up and get some food. Lift lines were minimal and the students had a really wonderful time. It gave them something to look forward to and made the winter really fly by."

The club's main goal is to introduce and teach beginners how to ski and ride (snowboard) and enjoy the entire mountain experience. Lessons are provided by trained professionals provided and employed by Mountain Creek.

Packages include lift ticket, rental, lessons and transportation via luxury motor coach.

Buses leave the respective schools Friday around 1:30 p.m. and return at approximately 11 p.m. that same evening. In addition, anyone interested in purchasing season passes can take advantage of our club discount pricing.

More information can be obtained by calling Rob Breslau at (908) 553-3009 or on our website at spskiclub.webs.com. Think snow!

Knights of Columbus 2012 Soccer Shoot

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus are calling all boys and girls, ages 10-14 for the 2012 Soccer Shoot, which will take place Saturday, Oct. 6 at 3 p.m. (rain date: October 13) at the Kenneth Avenue Soccer Fields.

All participants should bring a copy of their birth certificate.

For more information, call Al Vill at (908) 421-5386.

Paper Shredding At New Location

The Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders in conjunction with the Borough of South Plainfield will sponsor a free paper shredding event on Saturday, Oct. 6 at the community pool parking lot, next to the PAL Building, 1250 Maple Ave. Residents can bring confidential papers—old files, receipts, bills, financial statements—to be shredded for recycling. There is no need to remove staples, paper clips or paperboard binder covers. The mobile truck shreds the paper on-site, so residents can watch their papers being destroyed.

The truck will be at the community pool parking lot from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., or until it fills up. This is a new location and was chosen because it has more room for vehicles to queue than does the Senior Center.

Do not bring books, magazines, newspapers or anything made of plastic. These should be placed at the curb in the blue recycling box or brought to the borough's recycling center on Kenneth Avenue.

For more information, email the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management at solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us or call (732) 745-4170.

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In My Opinion

Opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the publisher, nor do we guarantee accuracy.

(Continued from page 2)

such a contribution, and certainly does not "owe" any money to the borough. And while it might be reasonable for a candidate for the council to support such a request, how can a candidate for the BOE do so? A candidate that says the BOE should give away money that could be spent on improving the education of our children should not be a member.

RICHARD J. SULLIVAN

To the Editor:

I consider myself very level-headed when it comes to politics. I believe that those people we elect on every level should be hardworking, motivated and "pure of heart." Most importantly, I believe our leaders should be honest. That's why on Election Day 2012, I'll be voting for the Democratic team of CJ Diana and Franky Salerno.

I believe that these are two of the finest young men to ever want to serve in this capacity. In speaking with them, I found them to be respectful, yet forceful. They spoke about their vision for the future of our borough and I felt like it was my vision. They told me that they pledge to have no tax increase next year and even beyond! They told me that they will invest in our infrastructure by improving our roads and parks. They told me that they want to treat all borough employees with the respect they deserve. They told me how furious they were with the firing of borough clerk and lifelong borough resident Joann Graf! That was all I needed to hear to know that they were speaking my language.

Join me in casting a strong vote for our future by electing the Democratic Borough Council candidates, CJ Diana and Franky Salerno.

WILLIAM A. NAGY, JR.

Dear Editor,

I cannot tell you how pleased I was to see that Franky Salerno was running for Borough Council again. I've known Franky for many years and I have to tell everyone that he is one of the most sincere and genuine young men you could ever come in contact with. From the time he was an altar server at Sacred Heart Church to the time he enlisted and served in the United States Armed Forces, Franky has always put the well being of others before his own. You can't say that about many people in today's world. Even today, Franky is

still putting others before himself. He spends a lot of his free time coaching Pop Warner football, even though he has no children of his own. That certainly speaks volumes about who Franky is and why he deserves our vote. He plain and simple cares!

Please join me in electing Franky Salerno and his runningmate, CJ Diana, to the South Plainfield Borough Council.

**SINCERELY,
CHERYL NAGEL-SMILEY**

To the Editor:

In the 9/21 issue of the *Observer*, Democratic Chairman Vinnie Buttiglieri is quoted as saying that he "would not allow" Mr. Salerno and Mr. Diana to participate in the Meet the Candidates event on October 17. He said that this was to save them from "the negative attacks that the Republicans are spewing." I am a lifelong Democrat, but if these candidates do not have the guts to participate in this event, to defend themselves against the Republican "attacks"—some of which I find to be quite reasonable—and to present their case to the residents of the borough, they do not deserve any votes, and will not get mine.

And maybe Mr. Buttiglieri misspoke when he said he would not "allow" them to participate, but who wants someone on the council who allows the party chairman to tell them what to do? I'm not voting for any hand puppets (although I did like Kukla and Ollie), and no one other than the puppeteer and his other puppets—should do so either.

RICHARD J. SULLIVAN

To the Editor:

If you want straight and honest answers to the issues facing South Plainfield, then vote for CJ Diana and Franky Salerno for Borough Council.

CJ Diana is an exciting young leader in South Plainfield. He is a graduate of South Plainfield High School and John Jay College. He is a lifelong resident and knows the tough issues that we face as taxpayers.

Franky Salerno has served his country and South Plainfield in many different capacities—a Navy veteran of the Iraq War, a former councilman who was often praised by the opposing party for his bipartisan approach, and as a coach for our Pop Warner program.

CJ and Franky are exactly what we need in South Plainfield—proactive and honest people who put the interest of the residents first and are willing to

tackle the tough issues.

Vote for CJ Diana and Franky Salerno on Election Day and get some straight answers from your elected officials.

KIM GALLAGHER

Dear Editor,

The headline in last week's *Observer* saying that Democrat candidates Franky Salerno and CJ Diana are refusing to debate told me more about these two than any of their weekly columns or letters to the editor ever could. If these two can't handle a debate, how are they going to handle being on the council?

Apparently Salerno and Diana's party chairman will not "let" the two debate because he is afraid they would get "attacked" by the other candidates. What does that mean? That Franky Salerno would have to explain why he didn't attend council meetings? That they would have to substantiate the inaccurate numbers they've been tossing around? That they would have to say how they would keep all the promises they're making?

It's not an attack when someone questions your record, how you will keep your promises, or how you will perform in office. Serious candidates know their record will face tough scrutiny.

Granted, personal attacks are out of bounds, but these are not personal attacks. In fact, in all the debates I've attended, no candidate has ever personally attacked another candidate. It's against the rules the candidates have always agreed to abide by. In my experience, the debates have always been quite cordial.

Lots of people are saying that Salerno and Diana are not credible candidates. By ducking the debate, the two are

proving these people right. So maybe it's better they don't attend. We can hear real candidates talk about real issues that are important to real voters. Salerno and Diana would be out of place.

STEPHANIE BARTFALVI

Dear Editor,

To me, elections should be about the people, not political parties. Elections should be about the candidate running, not whether that person is a Democrat or a Republican.

I can tell you I will be voting this year in South Plainfield's local council race, because two independent candidates are running for office. I also happen to know one of them very well, Pat DeSantis.

Pat is a woman who is super involved in South Plainfield, speaks her mind, and is running for office for all the right reasons. She is running to represent me, you and the residents of this town, not a political party. She is running because she feels the average resident's concern is not being listened to. She is concerned that taxes are going up and have gone up despite endless promises that they won't and she simply enjoys helping people out when they need a hand.

Pat won't have the money to support a campaign like the Democrats and Republicans, but I am asking for your help in spreading the word about her candidacy this November.

**SINCERELY,
MICHELLE FUGAZZI**

Dear Editor,

It's easy to see why Democrat candidates Salerno and Diana are ducking the debate. They simply don't have a record they can defend. Salerno didn't take the

job seriously last time, and neither he nor his runningmate has a record of accomplishment on which to run.

But even putting all this aside, it's obvious they'd be unable to defend the absurd statements and outright falsehoods they're campaigning on. Here are a few examples.

In their literature they say the Republicans haven't paved a single road while in office. What? What about Tompkins Avenue, Cherry Street, Rahway Avenue, McKinley Street, New Market Avenue, Linden Avenue (part), Oxford Avenue (part) and Metuchen Road? What about the 10 roads the council approved a few meetings ago? Are Salerno and Diana trying to mislead people or are they that uninformed?

This is just one example. Not one fact or figure they are using is accurate. They've made up numbers about borrowing, taxes and just about anything else you can think of.

Their promises are just as bad. For example, they say they won't raise taxes for three years. I like that idea, except for one thing: last time Salerno ran, he promised he would not raise taxes and then voted to raise them \$404.

And where is the plan that supports the promises? Why should we think Franky Salerno is capable of keeping his tax promise when he failed to propose a single idea for cutting spending in three years he served as a councilman last time?

It's difficult to take candidates seriously when they use made-up numbers, try to sell half-baked ideas, and make promises they've shown they are incapable of keeping. Salerno and Diana don't deserve our support.

DENNIS LITTLE

Obituaries

Thomas W. Penders, 64

Thomas W. Penders died on Thursday, Sept. 20 at JFK Medical Center.

Tom was born in Plainfield and grew up in South Plainfield. He graduated from South Plainfield High School in 1966, then attended Athens College in Georgia. He resided in Tampa, Fla. before moving back to South Plainfield in 1994.

He worked as a claims agent for Prudential Insurance Company in Piscataway and later worked for The Anthem Health Insurance Company, also in Piscataway, before retiring in 1998 due to failing health.

Tom is predeceased by his father, William Penders, who died in 1976; and by his mother, Carolyn (Trotta) Penders, who passed away in 2003.

Surviving are a sister, Helen Pedersen, and husband Jack of South Plainfield; two nephews, Michael Pedersen of South Plainfield and Private Thomas Pedersen of Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and a niece, Rachael Pedersen of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Florence C. (Cunha) Mikorski

Florence C. (Cunha) Mikorski died on Friday, Sept. 21 at her home in South Plainfield.

Born in Perth Amboy, Florence resided in South Plainfield for several years. Florence graduated from Perth

Amboy High School and retired as an accounting analyst for the U.S. Postal Service after a dedicated career.

Mrs. Mikorski is survived by her beloved husband, Frank; a daughter, Linda Tuleya, and husband Robert; and three grandchildren, Sarah Gaspero and husband James, Christopher Tuleya and wife Melissa and Jonathan Tuleya and wife Stefanie. Also surviving are four great-grandchildren, Allison, Owen, Jake and Jason Tuleya.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Our Lady of Czestochowa RC Church, 120 Kosciuszko Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

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OPINION

South Plainfield Democrats



Republicans Not 'Getting It Done' In Keeping Trucks Off Hamilton

C.J. Diana and Franky Salerno, the Democratic candidates for Borough Council, called attention to the continuing debate about keeping trucks off Hamilton Boulevard. Candidate Diana said, "Let me be very clear; Franky and I are totally opposed to trucks ever returning to Hamilton Boulevard. Some of our nicest neighborhoods are on the south side of town. It would be more than insensitive... it would be dangerous to once again have sixteen-wheelers barreling through the area."

"The Republican Party originally opposed the alternate truck route, and Councilman Bengivenga actually campaigned on bringing the trucks back. After the residents showed their outrage, he changed his position. His flip flop is reminiscent of the saying, 'I was against it before I was for it.' My concern is

whether he really changed his mind. Actions speak louder than words."

Candidate Salerno expanded on his runningmate's concern saying, "The Republicans are running on a slogan 'Getting it Done'. When it comes to Hamilton Boulevard we ask, 'What are you doing?' The alternate route committee never meets. The Republicans replaced the engineering firm that was actually making progress and had identified a route that would work, with a politically connected firm that had nothing to do with the project. Over \$100K has been spent to bring them up to speed with nothing to show for it."

"I know a lot of Tea Party Republicans in town think trucks should go back on the boulevard. They say that it's too bad about the residents. If they don't like trucks, they shouldn't have moved there."

Well C.J. and I disagree. We are all in this together. Keeping trucks off Hamilton Boulevard is good for all of our residents."

C.J. Diana summed up the Democrats' position, "A couple of weeks ago we asked the Republicans to confirm or deny if they intend to put up red light cameras in town. Their lack of response says a lot. They think they can run on a catchy slogan and not answer uncomfortable issues. Our residents deserve better. One party rule is not getting it done. All of us deserve to know why the alternate truck route is being ignored. Even more importantly, we deserve to know if Mr. Bengivenga has changed his mind again. Is he for or against letting trucks back on Hamilton Boulevard?"

The Democrats invite everyone to visit their website, spdem.org. They want everyone to know what they stand for.

OPINION

South Plainfield Republicans



Bengivenga and Frank Point to Successes With Job and Business Growth

Saying that results count, Council candidates Rob Bengivenga and Dick Frank are asking voters to look closely at the records of those running for council.

The two candidates pointed to business growth as a key example of the job they've done and what they'd like to continue if re-elected.

"Business growth helps control taxes, which by itself is important," said Bengivenga, "but it also helps provide jobs, which are vital to help South Plainfield residents in this economy."

In 2010 and 2011 GOP candidates promised to grow business and bring in new jobs. Here are the results:

South Plainfield is one of the best towns around for job growth. Last year unemployment was just 6.2%. That's over two points better than

the county and state averages.

Existing businesses are re-investing in South Plainfield. For example, PSE&G is expanding its facilities and moving two business units to town. The expansion means about 400 additional jobs.

National retailers are choosing South Plainfield. In fact, Hobby Lobby just chose South Plainfield for its first site in the mid-Atlantic.

Businesses are relocating here from other towns. Royal Coffee just relocated from Edison. ProCare Physical Therapy and Glo-Pak just moved here too, and Progressive Insurance is building a headquarters by Route 287.

New businesses are opening weekly. Just look at all the grand openings in the newspaper. Combinations Martial Arts is the most recent.

Other recent business open-

ings include Chipotle, Everest Institute, Cups, White Castle Area Office, Habaneros, 365 Bistro, Weight Watchers, Uncle Louie G, Pat-A-Cake, Arista Care, Hibachi Grill and Sears Appliance.

"Other towns are not seeing these results," said Bengivenga. "South Plainfield is leading the state."

"Our opponents are promising everything under the sun," added Frank. "Our promise is a simple one, however. Our top goal is to make our town more affordable for South Plainfield's families and seniors. We want to control taxes and spending and to bring back business and jobs. We're getting results on both these goals, and we will continue to deliver if re-elected."

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OPINION

South Plainfield Independent



An Independent Voice...

This week I'd like to tell you a bit about myself and discuss some of the things that I have heard from you.

I grew up in town, attended our schools, and graduated in 1997. I take great pride in living here and find my neighbors to be helpful and friendly.

After attending college I moved back and started volunteering my time in music ministry, and recently I was appointed to the Cultural Arts Commission because of my background in the arts. While attending university I was taught that we should engage locally in civil affairs, because community is what is most important. To that end I started attending town council meetings. What I found shocked me. It is why I am here today. The parties are failing us, and the notion that one will balance the other isn't happening.

Let's look at the current situation here in town. The Republicans control the council. It wasn't too long ago that the Democrats did so. What is the current debate? The Democrats claim we need to break up one party control, that taxes are out of control, and corruption is running rampant at town hall. It wasn't too long ago that

the Republicans were running on the same platform. So we've come full circle. This time though we've got a chance to break it, and it is my sincere wish to see our town improved.

While walking, many of you share the same frustrations I have. These frustrations extend to corruption in government, lack of code enforcement, failing infrastructure, a general disregard from politicians, broken promises, and much more. What we agree about is that things have got to change. To those of you I have had the chance to speak with, thank you. To those I have yet to meet, when a guy with clipboard and postcards comes to your door he isn't selling something, it's just me looking to say hello and introduce myself. I'd like the opportunity to serve the community, and with your courage and trust we can make this happen in November.

It is time you had an Independent voice working for you. Elect Paul McCullen, Independent for Town Council November 6.

Join the conversation at www.facebook.com/mccullenforsp or email me at Mccullen4sp@gmail.com.

OPINION

South Plainfield Independent



Being Your Independent Voice

As an Independent running for Council, my campaign is focused on being your voice on issues that matter most in South Plainfield and advocating on your behalf. No matter the issue, big or small, I pride myself on being available to assist the residents of South Plainfield. I promise to return your phone calls. I promise to be accessible to you. I promise to work hard for you. This is exactly what you should expect from your elected representatives.

Residents have told me they feel intimidated to attend council meetings and speak up publicly about things that bother them around town. If I am elected to the council, you can be assured that I will never make you feel intimidated or uncomfortable discussing issues that are important to you. I promise to assist in finding a solution to the issue and working with all members of the council to get the matter resolved.

During the past couple of weeks, residents brought a couple of concerns to my attention, but felt intimidated to attend a council meeting. For instance, a group of residents were concerned about the lack of upkeep of an abandoned house in their neighborhood. I explained to them the process for bringing up such a matter before the council, attended the meeting with them and they are now pleased that they have acknowledgement from the council of their concern.

On another important issue, if I have the opportunity to serve this community as a member of the council, I will make every effort to make sure that we act to pay formal tribute to the victims and the families of 9/11.

I heard the concerns, acted on them, and promise to do the same if elected.

Please continue to send me your suggestions on how to move South Plainfield forward.

Pat DeSantis, an Independent Working for You and South Plainfield

Election 2012

OPINION

The opinions expressed here are those solely expressed by the individuals and organizations submitting the articles. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher, nor do we attest to their accuracy.

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9 a.m.-5 p.m.
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Photos courtesy of Louis Mornile



Labor Day 5K Race Results-Top Five in Each Category



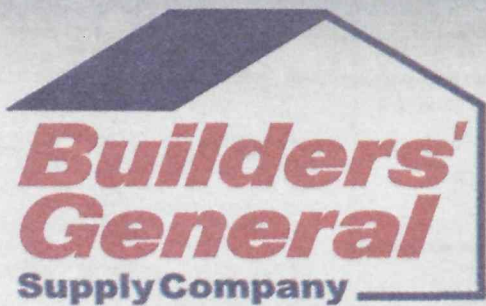
Overall Males		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	16:18.7	Tim Morgan
2	16:20.3	Alan Wells
3	17:39.0	Billy Foster
4	17:53.2	Mike Loenser
5	17:55.0	Joshua Coupe
Overall Females		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	21:31.2	Patricia Cruz
2	21:45.3	Diane Ferraro
3	22:32.0	Christi Patla
4	23:59.9	Christie Leso
5	24:22.7	Alyssa Buccino
14 And Under Males		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	21:24.1	CJ Maszczak
2	21:27.3	Pablo Rodriguez
3	21:34.7	Dan Heoben
4	22:42.7	Will Drumgool
5	22:51.9	Yianni Garis

14 And Under Females		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	21:45.3	Diane Ferraro
2	24:22.7	Alyssa Buccino
3	24:58.4	Lynda Farinella
4	25:29.9	Sydney Miller
5	25:52.1	Jaime Foster
15 - 19 Year Old Males		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	17:39.0	Billy Foster
2	17:55.0	Joshua Coupe
3	18:46.2	Charlie Butrico
4	19:12.1	Zachary Wilson
5	19:17.4	Ryan Mccue
15 - 19 Year Old Females		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	21:31.2	Patricia Cruz
2	24:57.5	Gracie Piekarski
3	26:24.2	Mariah Garcia
4	27:12.5	Shannon Hughes
5	27:22.4	Kaitlyn Hughes

20 - 29 Year Old Males		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	16:18.7	Tim Morgan
2	1:55.9	Sean Okeefe
3	22:05.9	Eddie Sullivan
4	22:29.7	John Kazoluskas
5	22:35.5	Jorthan Bugey
20 - 29 Year Old Females		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	24:26.7	Megan Bayle
2	24:37.1	Stephanie Troia
3	25:53.0	Danielle Stio
4	26:10.4	Eileen Milcare
5	27:28.7	StephanieFauzame
30 - 39 Year Old Males		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	17:53.2	Mike Loenser
2	19:27.9	Stephen Ritter
3	20:48.0	Mike Panzarella
4	20:53.5	Michael Talbot
5	20:58.1	Jasper Baluyot

30 - 39 Year Old Females		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	23:59.9	Christie Leso
2	25:39.5	Gina Nobilp
3	29:06.5	Angel Aikins
4	29:32.9	Donna O'Connor
5	29:48.7	Stephanie Suppa
40 - 49 Year Old Males		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	16:20.3	Alan Wells
2	18:42.6	Christobal Arias
3	20:56.0	Jeff Temple
4	21:25.6	Ernesto Treijo
5	22:50.5	David Tauarez
40 - 49 Year Old Females		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	22:32.0	Christi Patla
2	26:12.0	Tara Drumgool
3	26:41.6	Toni Frank
4	26:52.0	Sharon Ferraro
5	29:18.7	Lori-Ann White

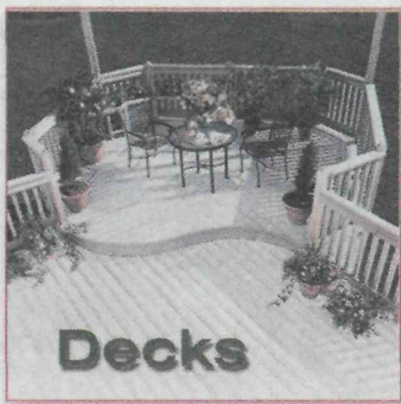
50 - 59 Year Old Males		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	22:02.8	Ken Ward
2	23:53.7	Rich Szeliga
3	24:33.3	Edward Piekarski
4	24:56.9	Robert McGill
5	25:18.3	Gregory Hoffman
50 - 59 Year Old Females		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	27:07.3	Many Pickanski
2	37:32.3	Lori Ioriatti
60 And Over Males		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	23:41.8	Peter Warren
2	24:13.6	Sid Howard
3	26:00.4	Edward Wright
4	26:17.9	Ronald Winner
5	26:32.2	Leigh Walker
60 And Over Females		
PLACE	TIME	NAME
1	26:05.8	Joann Coffee
2	28:14.4	Alice Tempel
3	39:16.8	Doris Doll



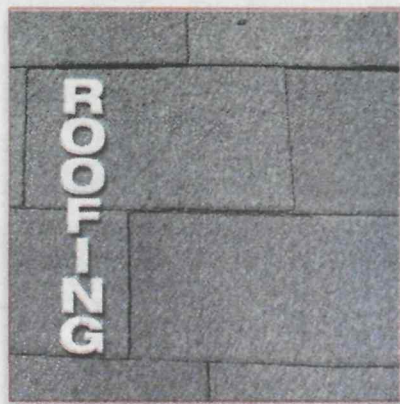
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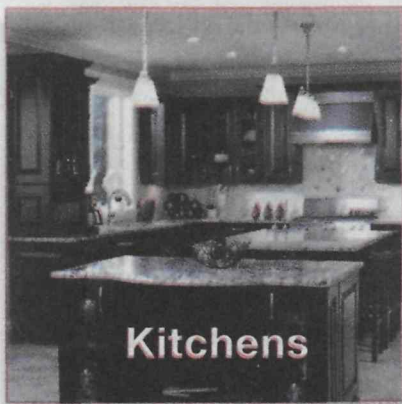
Tools



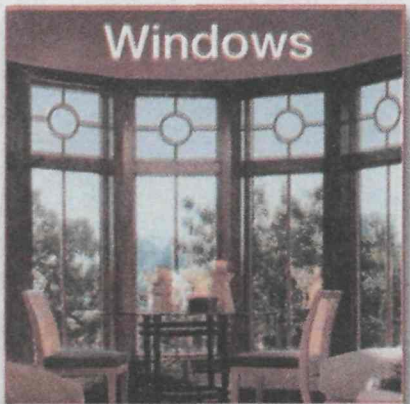
Decks



ROOFING



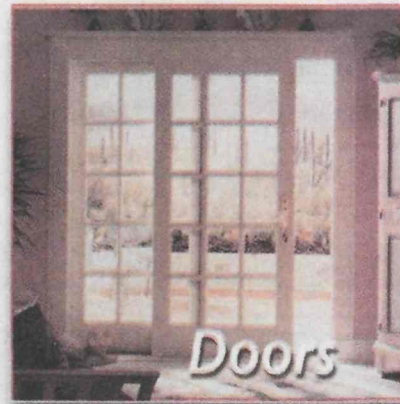
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